

ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY



MINUTES

—OF THE—

THIRTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION

—OF THE—

Pea River Baptist Association,

—HELD WITH—

MOUNT PLEASANT BAPTIST CHURCH.

November 3, 4 and 5, 1889.

J. W. BROOKS,
A. J. WISE, JR.,

MODERATOR.
CLERK.

TROY, ALA.:
JOHN POST, PRINTER.
1889.





MINUTES.

THE PEA RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION met in its Thirteenth Annual Session on the 3d day of November, 1889, with Mount Pleasant church. On the absence of the regular appointee and his alternate, the Introductory Sermon was preached by Eld. C. L. Matthews.

After one hour for refreshments, the Association was called to order by the former Moderator, J. W. Brooks. Singing and prayer by Eld. J. W. Bullard.

The letters from the several churches were presented and read by J. M. Sanders and C. L. Matthews, and the following names enrolled as delegates :

Damascus—J. H. Smith, J. J. Thames and J. D. Parkman.

Elba—J. J. Morris, P. N. Hickman* and W. P. Boyd.*

New Hope—W. J. Mitchell,* J. T. Eagerton and W. J. Pitman.

3-Notch Bethlehem—J. W. Bullard, J. Maynard* and W. E. Bird.

Bethlehem, (Coffee co.)—A. J. Wise, Jr., T. J. Brooks and W. T. Everett.*

New Providence—W. J. Spurlin, Joel Donaldson,* T. J. Beard.

Sardis—T. J. Geoghagan, Walter Geoghagan and J. D. Fleming.*

Woodland Grove—J. M. Rowe, C. R. Talbot and E. G. Brunson.

New Ebenezer—J. W. McCart,* R. M. Gilchrist* and W. H. Whaley.*

Piney Grove—J. W. Brooks, W. P. Johnson,* M. L. D. Crews.*

Zion Chapel—J. J. Calhoun, J. H. Foreman* and W. H. Heard.*

New Home—W. G. W. Harper, J. L. Watson and J. Walden.*

Mt. Pleasant—J. M. Tally, J. G. Jones and H. S. Nickols.

Hebron—J. J. Bradley, J. H. Weed* and J. H. Stanton.

Union Grove—W. T. Johnson and L. J. Baggit.

On motion, the Association elected by acclamation the former Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer.

Invited visiting ministers to seats in the Association.

Called for petitionary letters from churches desiring membership, when a petition was presented from Union Grove church by her delegates, W. T. Johnson and L. J. Baggit, which was received

and right hand of fellowship extended by the Moderator in behalf of the Association.

The following committees were appointed to report during the session :

On Divine Service—J. D. Parkman, J. L. Watson and Deacons and Pastor of Mt. Pleasant church.

On Missions—J. J. Morris, E. G. Brunson and Jeff Beard.

On Finance—W. G. W. Harper, C. R. Talbot and W. J. Pitman.

On Documents—J. W. Bullard, J. H. Smith and T. J. Brooks.

On Nominations—J. H. Stanton, Willie Bird and J. J. Bradley.

On Sabbath Schools—J. M. Tally, Wiley Smith and T. J. Geoghgan.

On Temperance—W. J. Spurlin, J. D. Parkman and J. G. Jones. Called for correspondence, when Bro. D. S. Langston and R. Mills responded from Geneva Association.

The committee on preaching reported J. M. Rowe to preach at 7 o'clock P. M., Sabbath evening.

The Association then adjourned till 9 o'clock A. M. Monday.

On Sabbath 7 P. M., Eld. J. M. Rowe occupied the stand according to appointment.

MONDAY MORNING, 9 o'clock A. M., Nov. 4, 1889.

The Association assembled, and singing and prayer by C. L. Matthews.

Renewed invitation to visiting ministers, when C. L. Matthews responded from Haw Ridge Association.

Renewed call for correspondence.

Called the roll and marked absentees.

Read Rules of Decorum.

Returned correspondence as follows :

To Salem Association—J. M. Rowe.

To Zion Association ———

To Newton Association—M. Brooks and J. M. Rowe.

To Geneva Association—J. W. Brooks, M. Brooks and J. W. Bullard.

To Alabama Association ———

To Evergreen Association—M. Brooks.

On motion, agreed to correspond with—

Haw Ridge Association—M. Brooks, J. M. Rowe, C. R. Talbot, T. J. Brooks, J. W. Bullard and J. M. Sanders.

Report on Missions read and adopted. See appendix A.

Report on Documents read and adopted, granting next session of this Association to Bluff Springs. See appendix B.

Report on Nominations read and adopted. See appendix C.

Report on Sabbath Schools read and adopted. See appendix D.

Report on Temperance read and adopted. See appendix E.

On motion of J. D. Parkman, all who had made pledges in the

past were allowed to direct their donations to whatever cause they desired, and the Treasurer instructed to pay it out accordingly, on demand of executive committee.

Adjourned until 2 o'clock P. M.

AFTERNOON.

Assembled. Singing and prayer by Bro. J. D. Parkman.

Report of executive committee from last session was read and adopted. See appendix F.

Report of Finance committee, read and adopted. See appendix G.

On motion, the printing of minutes was arranged, and the following resolution was adopted :

Resolved, That we tender our thanks to the members of Mt. Pleasant church, together with the kind citizens of the surrounding vicinity for their kindness shown us during our stay among them.

On motion adjourned to meet with Bluff Springs church, 12 miles north of Elba, on the first Sabbath and Saturday before in November, 1890.

J. W. BROOKS, Moderator.

A. J. WISE, JR., Clerk.

APPENDIX.

APPENDIX A—MISSIONS.

We, your committee on Missions, beg leave to make the following report:

We think there is a want of something in the hearts of our brethren in not giving more liberally to this the grandest cause on earth. We learned from the reading of the letters on yesterday, that there was only about five dollars and fifty cents given by this entire body for missions. Brethren, we would be glad to have you take this matter in hand, pray over it, seek God diligently, and we feel to know that He will teach you that it is right and a glorious thing to give to this cause. By designation we are missionary Baptists. Then it is high time we were vindicating our claims to this title.

We lay claim to the title without vindicating by deed.

JNO. J. MORRIS, Ch'n

APPENDIX B—DOCUMENTS.

We, your committee on Documents, offer the following report:

We find two petitions for the next session of this body—one from Elba church, and one from Bluff Springs. We recommend that you grant the petition of Bluff Springs for the next session.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. W. BULLARD, Ch'n.

APPENDIX C—NOMINATIONS.

To preach the Introductory Sermon at the next session of this body, John Bradley, his alternate, J. F. Kindrick.

For an Executive Committee, T. J. Beard, John Morris, W. G. W. Harper, J. F. Eagerton and C. R. Talbot; and that this committee be instructed to pay this money to the destitute part of this Association only.

Respectfully submitted.

J. J. BRADLEY, Ch'n.

APPENDIX D—SABBATH SCHOOLS.

We find that only two churches—New Home and 3 Notch Bethlehem—report Sabbath schools—we commend them for discharging this all important duty; while we see that a majority of the churches have failed in this. Now, Brethren, if we would realize any interest in the spiritual welfare of our children, let us endeavor to raise them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord; and we cannot advise any better plan than to bring them up in the Sabbath school. We hope that each church will report a lively Sabbath school next session.

Respectfully submitted.

J. M. TALLY, Ch'n.

APPENDIX E—TEMPERANCE.

Intemperance is one of the greatest curses of the world, and is reaching its dragon-like paws into the churches after our members, and we are sorry to say that a great many professing christians do not hesitate to go in at the back door of a grog shop. Some are even bold enough to go in at the front door and step up to the bar and ask for a drink. Such we term whisky drinking Baptists. "If the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness?" Such brethren, by such acts, are using their influence for the devil and are preparing the way for their sons and their neighbors' sons to fill drunkards graves. Brethren, think, reflect and read what the scriptures say about drunkenness and rioting. And again, if what was spent for alcoholic liquors and tobacco, was spent for the support of our home and foreign missions, and the educating of our children, they would be well supported and well educated. We do most earnestly recommend our brethren and churches to talk, act and vote for prohibition, and to churches most especially would we urge rigid discipline in regard to drinking and rioting. By this we mean not what some would actually call drunk, but if he is associating with those who are drunk, boisterous, cursing, swearing, &c., according to the scriptures, he should be dealt with as a drunkard. How can a conscientious christian take the bread out of his childrens' mouths and the clothes off their backs and spend it for drinks, and deprive them, if possible, of what is more valuable, an education, are questions I cannot answer.

W. J. SPURLIN, Ch'n

APPENDIX F—EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Met on the 6th day of April, 1889. elected J. D. Parkman, Secretary of committee, and having no knowledge of any destitution within our bounds, adjourned to meet the first Saturday in July, 1890. Met and agreed to pay J. W. Brooks \$15.00 to partly pay him for his services at Siloam, with the understanding that Siloam must move to a more desirable location than she formerly occupied, yet we hope that some good for the Master's cause has been done.

Respectfully submitted.

J. W. McCART, Ch'n.

APPENDIX G—REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Received on Indigent Ministers' fund.....	\$12.75
“ for minutes.....	28.95
“ from the churches for Missions.....	6.50
“ on old pledges, D. Swanner.....	5.00
“ “ “ W. J. Deal and wife.....	2.00
“ “ “ Mt. Pleasant church.....	3.00
“ “ “ J. M. Tally.....	1.00
“ from J. D. Parkman for Home Mission.....	2.50
“ “ “ Foreign “.....	2.50
“ “ John Spears “ Home “.....	1.00
	<u>\$65.20</u>

TREASURER'S REPORT.

W. J. Spurlin in account with Pea River Association,	
To amount brought over from 1888.....	\$63.35
“ “ received of Finance committee, 1889.....	66.00
	<u>\$129.35</u>

BY DISBURSEMENT, 1889.

By amount paid J. W. Brooks by order executive committee.....	\$15.00
“ “ “ J. W. Bullard and M. Brooks, each, 6.40.....	12.80
“ “ “ A. J. Wise, Jr., Clerk,.....	28.95
	<u>\$56.75</u>

Leaving a balance in my hands of.....\$72.60
W. J. SPURLIN, Treasurer.

RULES OF DECORUM.

1. The Moderator shall fill the chair and preserve order in the Association, which shall be opened and closed with prayer.
2. The privileges and authority of the Moderator shall be respected by all the members; he shall decide all questions of order and propriety.
3. The Moderator shall vote in no case, unless there is a tie in the Association, then he shall give the casting vote. He shall have the same privilege of speaking as other members, provided he shall appoint some member to fill the chair.
4. But one member shall speak at a time, who shall rise from his seat and address the Moderator, and keep to the subject; and he shall not speak more than twice on the same subject without leave from the chair.
5. No member shall leave the body while on business, except by permission from the Chair.
6. When a question is taken up, after allowing time for deliberation, the Moderator shall take the voice of the body by calling for the yeas and nays.
7. All motions in order must be disposed of by the body, unless withdrawn by him that made it.
8. A list of names of the delegates shall be called and absentees marked.
9. The Clerk shall enroll the names of the delegates, and keep a regular record of all the business of the Association.
10. The minutes of the Association shall be read and corrected before the body rises.
11. This Decorum may be altered or amended by two-thirds of this body.

CHURCH DIRECTORY AND STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	POST OFFICE.	CLERKS.	POST OFFICE.	Receiv'd by baptism	Received by Letter.	Voucher.	Restoration.	Dismissed by Letter	Exclusion.	Death.	Present Member- ship.	Ordained Ministers	Licentiates.	For Missions.	For Minutes.	Time of Meeting
Elba	P. L. Mosley.	Ylio,	W. P. Boyd.	Elba.	Ala.	1	1	4	1	1	38	...	...	...	\$300	\$2.50	...
Bluff Springs	J. W. Brooks.	Marl.	C. O. H. Martin.	Elizabeth.	Ala.	12	9	4	1	1	76	...	...	...	...	2.00	2.00 2 Sabbath.
Damascus	J. W. Brooks.	Marl.	J. D. Parkman.	Damascus.	"	8	4	1	1	4	89	...	...	...	...	2.00	2.00 2 Sabbath.
New Hope	C. L. Matthews.	Crittendens' Mill,	I. T. Engerton.	Fresco.	"	13	4	1	1	4	82	...	...	...	...	2.20	2.20 2 Sabbath.
Woodland Grove	J. M. Howe.	Elba.	E. G. Brinson.	Victoria.	"	3	3	1	1	2	71	...	...	...	...	2.00	2.00 2 Sabbath.
New Home	D. L. Hughes.	Daleville.	W. G. W. Harper.	Clintonville.	"	4	11	3	1	2	71	...	...	...	...	1.50	1.50 4 Sabbath.
Mount Pleasant	J. W. Bullard.	Daleville.	M. B. Adams.	Coffee Springs.	"	1	1	2	1	1	32	...	...	...	...	300	1.50 1 Sabbath.
Sardis	J. W. Brooks.	Marl.	L. P. Geoghagan.	Martha.	Ala.	3	2	1	1	6	33	...	...	...	...	2.00	2.00 1 Sabbath.
Bethlehem	D. C. Allen.	Brundidge.	A. J. Wise, jr.	Victoria.	"	4	4	1	1	2	21	...	...	...	...	1.00	1.00 4 Sabbath.
Zion Chapel	John Bradley.	Perdue.	J. H. Foreman.	Rodney.	"	5	8	1	4	2	52	...	...	...	...	2.00	2.00 3 Sabbath.
Three Notch Bethlehem	J. W. Bullard.	Daleville.	W. E. Bird.	Enterprise.	"	2	9	1	2	4	34	...	...	...	...	1.00	1.00 3 Sabbath.
Hebron	J. Bradley.	Perdue.	Z. R. Fuller.	Perdue.	"	2	9	1	1	1	16	...	...	...	...	1.00	1.00 3 Sabbath.
New Providence.	A. J. Brooks.	Elba.	T. J. Beard.	Enterprise.	"	10	11	5	6	5	42	...	...	...	...	350	2.00 4 Sabbath.
Union Grove	J. W. Brooks.	Marl.	W. T. Johnson.	Marl.	"	8	3	1	5	...	49	...	...	...	...	1.00	1.00 1 Sabbath.
Piney Grove	C. L. Eilands.	Bullock.	S. W. H. Whaley.	Elba.	"	13	...	...	...	...	13	...	...	...	...	1.00	1.00 1 Sabbath.
New Ebenezer	J. Bradley.	Perdue.	D. J. Williams.	Elba.	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
White Water	A. J. Brooks.	Elba.	M. A. Helms.	Elba.	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Shiloh	"	"	"	"	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total						93	66	2	9	46	16	4	943	5	2	\$650	\$1.95

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Hear Letters from the Churches read.
2. Elect Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer.
3. Invite Ministering brethren to seats.
4. Call for Petitions from Churches desiring to unite.
5. Appoint Committees, to report during the session, viz:
 - To arrange Preaching;
 - On Missions;
 - On Finance;
 - On Documents;
 - On Nominations.
6. Call for Correspondence.
7. Return Correspondence.
8. Have Rules and Decorum read.
9. Call Roll, and mark Absentees.
10. Hear Report from Committees.
11. Hear Treasurer's Report.
12. Hear Miscellaneous Resolutions.
13. Make Arrangements for printing Minutes.
14. Correct Minutes and Adjourn.

ORDAINED MINISTERS.

M. BROOKS, O. J. BROOKS, J. W. BROOKS, B. M. STEVENS, J. M. ROWE, J. W. BULLARD, JNO. BRADLEY, J. F. KINDRICK, W. N. CAIN, J. M. TALLY. Visiting Minister—C. L. MATTHEWS.

Absent delegates marked thus.*

